General Assembly

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/61/420/Add.4)*]

61/189. International Year of Natural Fibres, 2009

The General Assembly,

Noting resolution 3/2005 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, adopted on 25 November 2005,[1]

Noting also that the diverse range of natural fibres produced in many countries provides an important source of income for farmers, and thus can play an important role in contributing to food security and in eradicating poverty and hence in contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Decides* to declare 2009 the International Year of Natural Fibres;

2. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the observance of the Year, in collaboration with Governments, regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and also invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to keep the General Assembly informed of progress made in this regard;

3. *Calls upon* Governments and relevant regional and international organizations to make voluntary contributions and to lend other forms of support to the Year;

4. *Invites* non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary contributions to and to support the Year;

5. *Encourages* all Governments, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year in order to increase awareness of the importance of these natural products.

83rd plenary meeting
20 December 2006

[1] See *Report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Thirty-third Session, Rome, 19-26 November 2005* (C 2005/REP).